Man's Plaint

When a Fellow Is Married He Loses Many Friends

By ALICE MONTGOMERY

OH, the modern trend of the young men who lie back complacently in the all-embracing comfort of a deep armchair in some cozy drawing room and prate of marriage to their women friends! It is the one topic. They rehearse it from every point of view. They wallow in its intricacies and glory in its mysteries.

"It is our last resort," they say resignedly. "It is bound to happen some day, and as woman is the pursuer and man the pursued, why, the responsibility of the initiative is lifted from our shoulders. We are mere puppets," they say excitedly, straightening themselves for a moment from their lounging positions in the flush of their new discovery. "Mere puppets, dangling to a string controlled by a woman. When the appointed day is come, she beckons and we follow. It may be the voice of nature, or it may be the stirring of the life force, or it may be—oh, call it what you will—but one thing is certain—we obey. And, hang it all, think of what we have to give up in the doing of it. When a fellow is married he loses his best friends. At first they drop in casually and try to pretend things are just as they were, and admire the new fixings, and make pretty speeches to your wife, but somehow it is not the same, and they feel it, and you feel it, and try to right it, but it won't go. There is a feminine constraint, an invisible barrier that can't be ignored, and so gradually your best chums have other engagements and gather new interests, and you are not included, of course. And you feel an outcast. And then in sheer self-defense you have to throw in your lot with the other married people and watch some poor chap struggling in the marriage toils, and often it isn't a pretty sight. Say, marriage isn't all beer and skittles—it has its drawbacks."

"And then, too," these same young men continue, warming to their subject, "how we fellows have to toil and spin to make the wheels go round. There is no limit to the yards of bills that have to be met at the first of the month, and as for appreciation—there is no such thing nowadays. The women just take all they can get as a matter of course, in a sort of deign the queen kind of way that makes you feel pretty mean for not giving them more.

But all this time the women, who have a deeper insight into things marital and a keener intuition, smile whimsically into the embers. They know the men are having the time of their lives, and, incidentally, one of their own missions, that of affording entertainment, is being fulfilled. If the men were not really enjoying themselves, why on earth were they there at all, and why that particular topic, if it wasn't of paramount interest?

Much Benefit by Sleeping Out of Doors

By A. MORGAN
Milwaukee, Wis.

I have been sleeping outdoors on my back porch some six years and do not come in for zero temperatures or snow or rain. I use a sanitary folding couch and have a waterproof canvas cover which keeps the mattress dry in the day time and serves as an excellent top cover tucked in over all clothing and mattress at night. I use an extra mattress over the thin one which came with the couch.

For covers I use four heavy all-wool blankets and one comforter and over all this the waterproof cover acts as a protection from rain, snow and wind. About ten minutes before retiring I put in two or three quart water bags. The water should be steaming hot when put into the bags. The bags of hot water keep the bed nice and warm all night.

I use a wool stocking cap pulled down to the end of my nose, covering and protecting the eyes.

I was weak and sickly when I started this game and have gained 50 pounds and am strong as Sandow.

I sleep like a child and get up in the morning with a ravenous appetite.

Nothing can induce me to sleep indoors again.

How the Public Loses Much Money

By PROF. W. C. LANGDON
University of California

The consumer in this country not only pays the tariff, but he pays in many other ways where he gets the worst of it.

Take, for instance, the buying of articles where a fraction of a cent comes in. The American housewife in this era of high prices is often forced to buy in small lots. She goes to market and purchases, say, a half-dozen eggs, at 35 cents per dozen, but there being no half-pennies, must tender 18 cents. In the same way she expends 13 cents for half a dozen oranges instead of 12½ cents.

The same rule applies to dry goods, many articles selling at a figure where there is no even division if a fraction be bought.

While it may seem a trivial loss, I can tell you that the aggregate that is thus taken from the earnings of the poor and middle class will amount to a vast sum annually.

The condition could be easily remedied by the coining of half-pennies.

Birds That Stay During Winter Months

By J. HOWARD MOORE
Chicago

Last summer the south park commissioners installed a number of feeding stations for birds in Jackson and Washington parks.

During the winter months now these stations are kept well stocked with food, consisting of seeds of various kinds, with which suet is mixed.

As a result a number of birds are spending the winter here that usually fly south for the cold months.

Besides the bluejays, which have been here regularly for several winters, and the robins, which appear off and on every winter, there are several Kentucky cardinals, a mocking bird, juncoes (snow birds), shrikes, creepers, downy woodpeckers, nuthatches, wild ducks and a flock of 45 or 50 cedar waxwings. These last feed chiefly on the berries of the fruit and wild viburnum.

THIS BIRD ALMOST EXTINCT

The Huia Is One of the Rarest Species That Exist Anywhere in the World.

Aukland, N. Z.—Here is a picture of a male and female huia—one of the rarest species of birds that exist anywhere in the world. The huia are also the most domestic.

As you see in the picture, the male huia is pecking off the bark so that his wife may find her food. The male has a strong, sharp beak; the female a slender, long, incurved beak. So the male takes upon himself the burden of the heavy work in finding food.

The Huias.

After he has opened the way to a storehouse, his wife secures the food and then shows her affection for her mate by feeding him first. According to the Maoris, when one of these birds die, the companion soon yields to starvation, for he is inconsolable and will not eat.

There are very few huias in the world today. What few that are left are in captivity. Only scattering numbers may be found in New Zealand, their habitat. The bird is a member of the starling family and is confined to the forests of certain mountain ranges. In size it is about as large as an American thrush. Both sexes are glossy green-black, excepting a white terminal band upon the tail and large rounded wattles at the gape, which are orange red. The birds nest in hollow trees.

MACHINE TESTS HEART BEATS

New Device Takes Photograph of Heart's Action and Aids in Diagnosis of Disease.

Baltimore, Md.—An apparatus is now in use in the medical world for measuring disturbances in the activity of the heart. It consists of a magnet to which is attached a thin wire through which an electric current is set in motion. The wire in turn is attached to a mirror which reflects an oscillating beam of light by the aid of a bow lamp on to sensitized photographic paper. A line is thus traced on the paper in the same measure as the current went out from the heart, as shown in the accompanying illustration.

It is known that an imaginary line through the body has on one side all the currents generated by one side of the heart, and on the other side the currents generated by the opposite side, so that by connecting an electrode to each side of the body, obliterating all other currents of the body by placing them as nearly as possible at rest, the physician has the current of the heart where he can measure and examine it.

The patient is put at rest, one electrode is fastened to his arm, and one

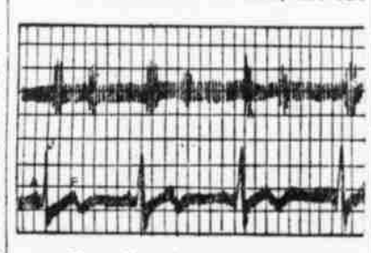

Chart Showing Heart-Beats.

to the opposite leg and the current generated by the movement of the heart of the patient is conducted to a quartz wire suspended in a magnetic field, which is deflected according to the amount of current flowing through it.

An arc light is thrown through a condensing microscope upon the moving wire, the shadow from which is thrown through another microscope, which magnifies it 600 times and throws the shadow through a slit at right angles to the position of the wire upon a screen. Back of the screen is a camera with a rotating film, which takes a record picture of the movement on the point made by the intersection of the slit with the shadow of the wire.

This picture is compared with pictures of perfectly normal heart currents, and by this method the physicians are often able to determine the nature of the patient's affliction.

She Is 117 Years Old.

New York.—Mrs. Esther Davis, an inmate of the Home of the Daughters of Jacob, this city, is one hundred and seventeen years old. She is well and distinctly remembers giving milk to the soldiers of Napoleon as they passed her home on their retreat from Moscow.

NO LONGER A THEORY

Public Now Believes Dry Farming as Fact.

Has Realized Degree of Success Justifying Predictions of Well-Informed Men—Beset With Hardship and Disappointment.

(By F. H. NEWELL, Director, U. S. Reclamation Service.)

The public now believes in dry farming. It has passed through the stages of ridicule, of mere toleration and finally of over-enthusiastic promotion and is settling down as an accomplished fact. It has suffered both from neglect on the one hand and from over-zealous friends on the other. The crop statistics of 1910 are showing that it is no longer a theory but has realized a degree of success justifying the predictions of well-informed men.

The practice of agriculture in the arid regions has been, and still is, to a large extent, a matter of pioneering. Like other pioneering enterprises, the practice of this new form of agriculture has been beset with much disappointment and hardship, especially on the part of those who have been illy prepared or badly advised. Not every man is capable of being a successful farmer any more than he is capable of being a successful carpenter or groceryman. It may be claimed that a higher degree of intelligence, skill, energy and strength is required of a successful pioneer farmer than is necessary for the mechanic or tradesman.

It is unfortunate that these pioneer enterprises of developing the arid regions, either by irrigation or without it, have always attracted a great many men who have not succeeded in other occupations. Many of these men are predestined to failure, because of lack of physical strength, of energy and especially of what people call "common sense." They are easily attracted by the novelty of the situation, and forgetting that there are many laws of nature and rules of practice to be observed, attempt the impossible and become quickly discouraged. It is this feature which has been particularly conspicuous during 1910, as the climatic conditions of aridity have severely asserted themselves and many would-be farmers have learned to their sorrow that arid agriculture is an art whose rules cannot be disobeyed with impunity.

In all affairs of life the failures are usually more instructive than the successes. It has been interesting to note that in nearly every instance the failures, both in irrigation and in arid agriculture have resulted from disobedience or neglect of known laws. Students of conditions have predicted certain failures on the part of most ill-directed efforts and have shown that while an occasional success might be made through chance, yet in the long run, the pioneer farmers must follow the rules laid down or suffer the consequence. One of these has been the thorough tilling of the soil and the storage in it of all of the moisture available.

In traveling through the arid west, it is noticeable how few of the pioneer farmers have properly tilled the fields, and how many have simply broken up the top soil and allowed it to dry out instead of properly pulverizing it and thus holding the scanty moisture and humus from being dissipated by the winds. The results have illustrated the old maxim of the unwisdom of putting all of the eggs into one basket. Case after case has been noted where, in the eagerness for large areas, the dry farmer has attempted to put in hundreds of acres of one crop and has neglected to till a few acres where a little water might be had for artificially moistening the soil.

When Should They Profit?

Prejudice is often expensive and ignorance a costly luxury, says the West Virginia Farmer. Calves of the Channel breeds if well grown should be bred between the ages of 10 and 14 months and they will come into profit considerably under two years of age. Reasonably early breeding saves feed and almost invariably develops you the most desirable dairy cow. The theory that delayed breeding produces a larger animal remains a theory.

Breeds of cattle that come to maturity early should be bred early for the best dairy development. Long delayed breeding sometimes results in sterility. There are extremes, of course, but for best dairy results reasonably early breeding is greatly to be preferred.

Winter Wheat.

Winter wheat sown last fall covers 828,000 acres more than last year, or 2.5 per cent. increase. The condition, however, was much below normal with 82.5, compared with 95.8 last year and an average of 91.3 for the last ten years. The crop has suffered most severely in Oklahoma and least in Wyoming and Nevada. Mississippi has doubled the acreage sown this year.

Cost of Cartage.

It costs the American farmer 25 cents a ton per mile on an average to haul his produce to market or to the railroad station. In England, France and Germany hauling costs from 7.7 to 13 cents per ton mile. The difference is due mainly to the improved roads in Europe.

UNCERTAINTY OF DRY FARMS

Can Be Eliminated to Extent of Making Method as Sure as That of Other Farming.

Can the element of uncertainty in dry land farming be eliminated? Some say no, some say yes. I am of the number who say yes. I believe it can be eliminateed, and to the extent of making dry land farming as sure as any other line of farming, writes Prof. Thos. Shaw in the Dakota Farmer. How shall it be done? I had rather say first, perhaps, how it should not be done before saying how it may be done.

It should not be done by depending on spring plowed land to produce a crop. In a season of an average amount of moisture the result will be favorable from spring plowed land, but in a very dry year the outcome from such cropping may be almost a total failure. In much of Dakota and also in much of Montana last season, such was the outcome from sowing grain on spring plowed land. In many instances the crop never germinated at all. In many other instances it germinated and then so dried up that it did not come to fruition. Such farming will not eliminate the element of uncertainty. How, then, is it to be eliminated? By the method submitted below.

The element of uncertainty may be removed, first, by properly summer-fallowing the land and by growing a crop of grain on the summer-fallow. It may also be eliminated by growing a cultivated crop and following the cultivated crop with a crop of grain. Where this system is faithfully carried out, it will enable the farmer to grow three crops in four years and with considerable certainty. He will follow, for instance, the summer-fallow with grain. The grain will be followed with corn and the corn in turn with grain, thus furnishing three safe crops in four years.

The summer-fallowing will be done in outline as follows: The ground will be plowed when it has the largest amount of moisture in it, that is in April, May or June. It will be plowed deeply and firmed by planking or rolling or discing the day that it is plowed, to prevent the escape of moisture. It is then harrowed to prevent the further escape of moisture. The harrow follows every considerable rain until winter wheat is sown in the autumn, and if winter wheat is not sown, one or two harrowings are given later. The winter or the spring crop sown on such land will not be a failure, even in a dry season.

Likewise, suppose land is plowed in the fall for fodder corn. In the spring the land is stirred quite early with disc or harrow to keep in the moisture and in due time it is planted to fodder corn. The corn is properly harrowed and then cultivated and it is followed with a grain crop sown in due season. That grain crop will give considerable of a yield even though the season should prove dry. Here then are two methods by which the element of uncertainty may be removed when handling the lands in dry areas.

The one element of hazard is to get the farmers to adopt those methods. They are so wedded as a rule to the methods of farming practiced in the east, that they do not like to change them. But there is only one way open. If the bench lands are to be depended on to produce a crop, they must be farmed on those lines that will conduce to such a result.

Wood-Eating Calves.

When calves crave wood or other unnatural substances, it is an indication of an excessively acid condition of the digestive organs. They want an anti-acid, the same as when cows eat bones to neutralize an acid condition. Give a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda in milk twice a day.

FARM NOTES.

One acre of corn stalks in the silo is worth five acres outside.

The farm machinery of today requires the larger horses.

Two of the most potent principles of agriculture are diversity and rotation.

If your seed corn it not thoroughly dry it need immediate attention.

There is a certain class of farmers that are greatly prejudiced against science applied to agriculture.

The conservation of soil is promoted under general dairy farm operations.

When honey is stored in a damp place it will absorb moisture and ferment.

As regards the culture of wheat too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the importance of an early preparation of the seed bed.

In order to secure plenty of moisture, oats stubble should be plowed as soon as possible after the oats are removed.

Thoroughly dry corn will stand a much lower temperature without losing its germinating power than will that which is not.

The damage to farm crops charged to moles usually is due to the activities of rats or other animals that gnaw, such as field mice, shrews, etc.

It is possible to make every farm a better farm every year as a result of getting into the soil more fertility than the year before.

Some folks say that the plow horses ought to be curried every day in the winter and their hair kept short, but nature does not say so.

Remember that corn is palatable, digestible and nourishing. As a rule you have no other grain feed for the cow, steer, horse, pig or hen that is as cheap and good all around as corn.

When you find excess of speech look for shortage on sight.

Didn't Care.

Hewitt—I guess you don't know who I am.

Jewett—No, and I haven't any woman's curiosity about it.

Scott's Rebecca in "Ivanhoe."

The character of Rebecca, in Scott's "Ivanhoe," was taken from a beautiful Jewess, Miss Rebecca Gratz of Philadelphia. Her steadfastness to Judaism, when related by Washington Irving to Scott, won his admiration and caused the creation of one of his finest characters.

Education vs. Instinct.

Jacob Wendell, Jr., who plays the part of the dog in Maeterlinck's drama, was dining in a restaurant recently when a man, recognizing him as the actor, approached and said:

"Pardon me, but you take the part of the dog in 'The Blue Bird,' do you not?' Of course,' you don't know it, but I can really bark lots more like a dog than you."

"Well, you see," answered Wendell, "I had to learn."—Success Magazine.

QUITE SO

Philip—These motorists seem to think the ordinary pedestrians are beneath them.

Harry—Well, they often are.